November 29, 1983

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Rt, 12
Frederick, Maryland
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Dear Mr. Weisberg,

It's been a long time since I've written to you, but I've thought of you many times over the past couple of years. I've moved from New York and now live in Los Angeles. I'm writing for a magazine show on the Disney comapny's new TV cable channel. This is something that I do to pay the rent, while I continue writing my comedy film scripts.

One reason that I haven't written is that there hasn't been much to say. I have wondered about your health and how you are doing. Last time I wrote, your phlebitis had limited your movement somewhat. The 20th anniversary of President Kennedy's assassination brought all kinds of publications out with various articles. I've made an attempt to save whatever I could get my hands on. I did catch two interesting TV shows on the subject of JFK's death. One is a show called, CROSSFIRE, on WTBS (Ted Turner's Superstation). It has two hosts one is Patrick Buchanan and I don't know who the other fellow is. I happened to catch it the night Robert Groden was on. He couldn't show any of the photographic materials, so he tried to answer such questions hurled at him as: "How could the C.I.A. plot and get away with killing the President?", "If Oswald didn't kill the President, who did?", "How could anyone cover it up for so long?" and so on. All the typical questions... but Groden panicked and came off like he had something to hide. Rather than think fast on his feet and sight discrepensies in the "official" report through the Zapruder film and other photographic evidence which he's supposed to have intimate knowledge of, he hemmed and hawed and said, "I never said the C.I.A. killed President Kennedy... I said it's possible that elements of the C.I.A. were involved." Then they'd try to pin him down for specifics and he'd panic again. Not a good showing at all.

Another show, NIGHTLINE, recently had two of my favorites: Mark Lane and David Belin. Everytime I see Belin, his facial nervous tic has gotten worse. That's about all he's got to show for 20 years of apologizing for the Warren Commission. Nobody else who was on the Commission much cares to put himself in front of the public like that anymore. As little as I care for Lane, he got the better of Belin and Belin knew it. At one point, out of nowhere, Belin started yelling at Lane, "Who killed Tippit? Who killed Tippit?". I mean, half the viewers watching the show probably don't know who the hell Tippit was. Even if they did, they'd never understand what he meant by blurting it out like that. This is a question that even Ted Koeppel didn't really understand. Lane finally said he didn't think Oswald killed Tippit and Belin sighed as if to say, well this guy doesn't think Oswald did anything wrong. Nothing new to hear on the show just more dramatics. Representative Louis Stokes defended his congressional probe and pointed to the tape from the motorcycle cop's radio when Ted Koeppel asked, "But what about new evidence?". Why no one ever says, "Yes, but what about the old evidence which is just as valid today", I'll never know.

One of the items included is something put out by Larry Flynt and The L.A. Free Press. It's apparently a reprint of something from 1978 with people like Mark Lane, Donald Freed Robert Groden and Dick Gregory involved. You are given mention in the bibliography and not particularly flattering when you consider that George O'Toole's book is described as "a bold, new provocative approach...". But over all the years, I've always remembered that speech that Jim Lesar read for you at N.Y.U.

There's a recent article from Rolling Stone by Don Delillo. A strange article by Ben Stein from the L.A. Herald accusing Yuri Andropov as being the man behind JFK's murder. Apparently this comes from a book called, Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald by Edward J. Epstein. I've also included a copy of a recent National Enquirer devoted to the topic of the assassination. You are listed as amember of their "Blue Ribbon Panel" along with Cyril Wecht, David Wrone, and Gary Mack. There's some various other newspaper clippings. And, I came across a San Diego Magazine with an article called "The Scars of Dallas" by Dr. Louis Kartsonis. I didn't include The Life Magazine called "4 Days That Stopped America" as it really had nothing but big glossy pictures nor did I bother with The People Magazine article by Oswald's daughter. I hope you will find some of the materials I have sent you of some interest.

I am curious to know what you have been up to and if your work continues. If so, do you have anything of note to mention? Whenever I see these articles again and hear the arguements rehashed on TV shows, I find it very frustrating. The majority of the people don't believe the report, but the government continues trying to suppress information and we're way past the point of where we can find anything out about the real crime. We can continue to find out how we were lied to and in the long run that teaches us something about the country we live in, but except for the few who take time to notice, most of the people go on believing the lies they are fed. As I've told you before, I have a great deal of admiration for you and all you have done. I wish there was more I could do to help. If at anytime you feel I can be of service to you, please let me know. Take care of yourself.

Sincerely,

Robert Bruce

Robert Bruce

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